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petition either disappears entirely or fades away into a dim future, when China has raised herself at home quite up to our standard." The entrance of the United States into the Far Eastern Arena is regarded as conducing to the better understanding and mutual advantage of both China and the United States.

The book is a welcome addition to the rapidly growing literature that seeks to explain this most misunderstood nation of the world.

J. P. LICHTENBERGER.

University of Pennsylvania.

Lindsay, Forbes. *Cuba and her People of To-day.* Pp. xii, 329. Price \$3.00. Boston: L. C. Page & Co., 1911.

This volume, with its soft, cream wove paper and its fifty superior full page sepia illustrations, is a beautiful example of the bookmaker's art. But, better than this, is the study Mr. Lindsay gives us of the natural resources and economic conditions of modern Cuba. The style is simple and direct, yet it carries conviction with it, and a well tempered enthusiasm.

Three or four quotations may be given, which show that Mr. Lindsay has gone to the bottom of his subject. "Here is a country, small in extent, it is true, but as rich proportionally in natural resources as any in the world. It exports over \$100,000,000 worth of the products of the soil annually. Yet less than half of its productive area is turned to account; and of its cultivated tracts only a small proportion is subjected to intensive treatment. Bad government and ill-judged commercial policy have retarded the development of the country which, under favorable conditions, might to-day be producing five times its output, and supporting a population five times as great as that which it has. . . (Cuba has an area of 44,000 square miles, and a population of 2,000,000.)

"The economic condition of Cuba is as unfavorable as possible to the welfare of its population. Foreigners own practically everything in the country. The Island is exploited for the benefit of everyone but the natives. . . .

"The country that produces but one great staple by the agency of slave labor, lays itself under a curse that will be felt long after the conditions have changed. For well nigh a century sugar-cane has been the one chief source of Cuba's wealth, and it has cast a blight upon everything else. The sugar industry has exercised a detrimental influence upon the material welfare, morals, and health, and the independence of the people in general. . . The only outlook for the Cuban is to serve as a hired man."

"A country may be greatly prosperous, and the mass of its people be miserable in the extreme. Mexico is an example in point. Cuba is another. . . ." "On the *guajiro* (peasant) falls most heavily the burden of supporting the most expensive and extravagant government in the world. This because that government dare not bear too hardly with taxation upon the great corporations and wealthy property owners. . . ." "Large tracts of land that are held by their wealthy owners at high figures, are exempted from taxation entirely."

This is the story of Cuba in a nutshell. One of the healthiest lands on earth, her death rate is next to the lowest in the list of nations; with a rich soil, and a climate inviting the production of every tropical commodity; producing even now, one-fourth of the world's cane sugar, and one-sixth of the value of the

world's tobacco; yet hopeless, so far as the production of an independent manhood and a free government are concerned.

J. PAUL GOODE.

University of Chicago.

Winter, Nevin O. *Argentina and Her People of To-day.* Pp. xiv, 421. Price, \$3.00. Boston: L. C. Page & Co., 1911.

The author of this volume is already well known for his similar works on Mexico, Guatemala and Brazil; but in this latest work he has surpassed any of the earlier ones. The plan of the book differs very little from the others, separate sections being devoted to leading features, industries, activities and institutions with much to say about the people and their life.

Two especially good chapters describe the metropolis and the rural sections, giving thereby a sharp contrast of the two sides of Argentina. In these chapters the author shows plainly that he has been close to the real life of the country and has seen it both as an outsider and as it is for the Argentine. Realism is one of the chief merits of the book in all its parts.

Here and there, perhaps, an occasional statement of too optimistic character has crept in, due evidently to the effect of such apparent boundless possibilities for development in many ways. But in general a very conservative attitude is maintained. For this the author is to be commended.

Of the many books on this country the reviewer knows of no one which puts the reader more closely in touch with Argentina as it is than does this volume. Many very excellent illustrations and a good map supplement a delightful text.

WALTER S. TOWER.

University of Chicago.